

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ▼
HUMAN RESOURCES ENTERPRISE

PUBLIC HEALTH DENTAL HYGIENIST

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, performs technical and consultative dental and health educational services as a part of a statewide preventive dental health program; performs related work as required.

The Work Examples and Competencies listed are for illustrative purposes only and not intended to be the primary basis for position classification decisions.

WORK EXAMPLES

Organizes and initiates school dental programs in order to provide fluoride mouth rinse and dental health education in selected schools by providing leadership, assistance and training of school staff.

Organizes, supervises and evaluates dental hygiene students in special school dental programs in order to provide screenings, fluoride mouth rinse and health education in selected schools by assisting the staff of the College of Dentistry of the University of Iowa.

Conducts workshops and in-service training sessions on dental health for nurses, school personnel, institutional staff, community groups and other agencies in order to introduce others to the application of oral hygiene skills by dissemination of new knowledges and demonstration of new preventive dental health methods.

Serves as dental health consultant in order to provide technical assistance and consultation to county public health nurses, school nurses, school superintendents, and community dental health groups by providing advice and guidance on dental health education programs.

Serves as dental consultant to Maternal and Child Health projects throughout the state in order to assure accurate dental education, thorough screening and completed dental referrals by regular site visit evaluations of program.

Prepares documents and reports for use by dentists, educators and administrators of public health programs in order to provide the current status of existing preventive dental programs by researching, tabulating and compiling statistical data.

Provides dental health information and aid to schools in order to improve dental programs and health education by monitoring and evaluating existing school programs and preparing and making available useful education materials.

Attends meetings of Parent Teachers Association, Iowa Dental Association, Iowa Dental Hygiene Association, Iowa Public Health Association, Polk County Health Education Coordinating Council, and Iowa Public Health Dental Hygiene Study Club in order to promote dental health education programs by cooperating with other health, welfare and educational agencies and professionals.

Prepares exhibits on dental health in order to advocate school and community dental health programs by increasing the awareness of the significance of lifetime oral health care.

COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of the principles, techniques, terminology and practices of dental health.

Knowledge of the methods, and media used in health education.

Ability to present information and comments clearly and concisely in either verbal or written form.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.

Ability to evaluate current dental health programs and design more effective programs.

Displays high standards of ethical conduct. Exhibits honesty and integrity. Refrains from theft-related, dishonest or unethical behavior.

Works and communicates with internal and external clients and customers to meet their needs in a polite, courteous, and cooperative manner. Committed to quality service.

Displays a high level of initiative, effort and commitment towards completing assignments efficiently. Works with minimal supervision. Demonstrates responsible behavior and attention to detail.

Responds appropriately to supervision. Makes an effort to follow policy and cooperate with supervisors.

Aligns behavior with the needs, priorities and goals of the organization.

Encourages and facilitates cooperation, pride, trust, and group identity. Fosters commitment and team spirit.

Expresses information to individuals or groups effectively, taking into account the audience and nature of the information. Listens to others and responds appropriately.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in dental hygiene;

OR

graduation from an accredited two-year program in Dental Hygiene and two years of experience as a licensed Dental Hygienist.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a current license, as issued by the State Department of Health, to practice as a Dental Hygienist in the State of Iowa.

Effective Date: 6/83 JMM